

3/9/70

Dear Charlie,

Always good to hear from you. Only when you use office stationary, pls include home address so I won't have to look it up.

I got your and several other messages from friends, including AGO staffers when I spoke to the producer after the show. Thanks. It is, as I said, always good. I got the feel, especially knowing Joe as I have come to, this this one did have some impact.

What the woman has in mind is not likely to be feasible. They have a small offset press, but it is small, and this is a very large book. There would be about 125 small signatures of pages to be assembled, by hand, for each individual book. Such collating is both impossible and exorbitant. She also wants me to set it in type, which first, I cannot begin to afford, and second, would take months. This is more than a third of a million words. That they would be willing to wait for the money is fine, but they'd take forever to get the book out and the cost, with the best intentions on their part, would greatly exceed commercial costs. I also cannot figure that in today's circumstances I'll be able to make a commercial success of a private printing, as I did with WHITELASH, and I'm not about to let decent people like they seem to be go in left on the expectation of a fairly early return of their investment when I cannot be sure of it myself.

The only possibility I consider would make it possible is private financing by public-spirited people. But these are unlikely bedmates, people with money and public spirit on a subject like this. I do fear her call may have actually turned off some who might have considered this. Last time I was there something similar happened, but in that case I think the sum involved is larger than the man was willing to put up.

The government's refusal to make these records available will not rest where it now is, believe me. I hope you will learn soon.

The rumor about Garrison apparently is from a Jack Anderson column. One of his prime sources is Cartha de Loach of the FBI. I have no knowledge either way. But I do know Jim, and I think it unlikely and quite contrary to his rather fixed tastes. Note the standards of the people involved. JG makes no reference to this re Shaw, and Shaw's defenders make a libel about JG. The NO papers and the Wash Post did not carry that column, so I do not know what it says.

I, too, would like to be out there again, if only to be with a few (very few, after some of my experiences) of you again. But the only way I can begin to think of it with the enormous debt I've piled up and the quite severe toll all this has taken on my health and physical and emotional reserves is to make a paid appearance. Every trip I've made there was to have been with my expenses paid and small honoraria added. In fact they have increased my debt, after applying what little I did get, by over \$1,000. I'll not get on the plane without the ticket first. And when I know of the fees that is paid for by various academic and other groups and this subject, esp. the King part, is of no interest, I mourn a sick land....I also think that because I am both white and a Jew, this work can repair a few bridges the repair of which society could well use....Best to everyone, esp. Jamie.